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UCAPAWA News

UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

Vol. IV, No. 5 — March 1, 1944 — 68 — Price 5 Cents

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Alaska And California To Establish Councils

Alaska Elects President Of Canned Salmon Council

Seattle, Wash.—Canned salmon locals in Southeastern Alaska took a long step forward toward strengthening their Union with the formation of the Southeastern Alaska Cannery Workers Council, UCAPAWA-CIO, according to Int. Rep. A. E. Harding who has just returned from Alaska. Bro. Harding, who is Business Agent of the Big canned salmon local here whose members travel to Alaska for the salmon canning season, was sent by the International to Alaska to assist the resident locals to move forward.

Main functions of the Council, as expressed in its Constitution, are:

- To coordinate the activities of the several resident locals, so that through a unified program better wages and working conditions will be secured.
- To enable the resident locals to bring all cannery workers within the ranks of UCAPAWA-CIO.
- To establish a closer relationship between the resident locals and the International.

Marguerite Hansen, Business Agent of Local 237 in Ketchikan, was elected Pres. of the Council, and Rose Dellama, Int. Rep. and Branch Agent of Local 7 in San Francisco, has been assigned by the International to work in Alaska for six months.

NATIVES NEED UNIONS

Pointing out that it is the paramounty duty of labor today to defeat the Axis aggressors, because "a Fascist victory means enslavement of labor," Harding emphasizes that this can best be achieved by a strong labor movement everywhere. Union strength as a protection against unemployment after the war is especially important in Alaska, says Harding, since "because of their geographical isolation, workers in the Territory would be more vulnerable to a reactionary, anti-labor, open shop drive than elsewhere."

Although the native workers in Southeastern Alaska were right in step with the CIO movement, forming UCAPAWA locals 237 at Ketchikan, 222 at Petersburg, 269 at Juneau and 263 at Hoonah in 1938 which brought great improvement in conditions, there is still the job of bringing all the resident workers into the Union.

LOCALS ENTHUSIASTIC

Discussions on the Alaska program opened on Jan. 14 and 15 when Harding met in Juneau with Ruth Hayes, Margaret Wanamaker, Mrs. Anderson and Lecia Williams, all of Local 269 and Susan Brown and Robert Grant of Local 263. On Jan. 25 the Ketchikan membership unanimously ratified the Constitution and voted for Sister Hansen as President. The Juneau and Hoonah locals acted soon afterwards.

As the News goes to press, word has not yet arrived of the decision of Local 222. Harding met with Ann McDonald, Secretary of the Local and later sent Sister Hansen up to Petersbug for conferences with the Local.

Hillman Blasts "Impertinence" Of Martin Dies

New York, N. Y.—The CIO Political Action Committee headed by Sidney Hillman on Feb. 18 challenged the authority of the Dies Committee to investigate its activities and refused to submit its books and other material to committee investigators.

Hillman in announcing the Committee said his committee would welcome investigation by any Congressional Committee vested with the proper powers, but categorically denied that Representative Martin Dies under the resolution creating his committee to investigate "subversive and un-American activity," had power to examine the work of the CIO Committee "which is directed toward registration of voters and a

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FLASH!

Ucapawa Wires Barkley To Stick By FDR

—See Page 6

Seven Locals Plan For Calif.-Arizona Council

Los Angeles, Calif.—The first regional conference of UCAPAWA Locals in over two years resulted in plans to set up a permanent coordinating council tying together the work of the seven Locals in the California-Arizona area.

Recommendations of Pres. Donald Henderson for the formation of such a council were unanimously adopted by the 30 delegates meeting in the CIO Building here all day Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 5 and 6.

The work of the council will be to aid the International in organizing work, to coordinate political action, educational and publicity work and community and war activities of the affiliated locals. A per capita tax of 10c per member per month was recommended to finance the council.

[illegible] on behalf of the State Council. Bro. Thimmes told the delegates how similar conferences had helped the Steel Workers in their organizing and coordination. The first day was devoted to reports by George Roberts, new California-Nevada CIO Political Action Director; Paul Pinsky, California CIO Research Director; Herb Klein of the Labor Herald; Helen Weigert, Los Angeles CIO Health Director; and Luisa Moreno, Secy. of the California CIO Minorities Committee.

LAUNCH CITRUS DRIVE

Plans for a comprehensive organizing drive in the citrus sheds of California, already initiated by winning Labor Board elections in four sheds in the Lindsay-Porterville area, were announced by Pres. Henderson. A Citrus Organizing Committee has been set up with Luisa Moreno as Chairman, assisted by Int. Reps. Dave Forbes, Jack Frost and Minerva Burford. Work in the citrus industry will start immediately.

Local representatives at the conference were: Local 2, Fullerton, Calif.; Local 3, Los Angeles; Local 7, San Francisco; Local 64, San Diego; Local 78, Salinas; Local 254, Fresno-Tulare; and Local 306, Phoenix, Ariz. Also attending were Regional Director Dixie Tiller; Int. Vice-Pres. Luisa Moreno; and Int. Reps. Chas. J. Feller, Dave Forbes, Jack Frost and Minerva Burford. Chairman of the conference was Bob MacKay, Local 3 Business Agent.

POWERFUL SHED LOCAL 78 HOLDS FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Here are the Delegates and visitors to the First Constitutional Convention of Local 78 which in a space of two years has organized the fruit and vegetable packing industry (excepting citrus) of Arizona and California. As reported in the last issue of the NEWS, the convention, held in El Centro, Calif., wrote a constitution, elected officers for 1944 and adopted a thoroughgoing win-the-war program. Int. Rep. Charles J. Feller reporting on progress of the local listed a few of its accomplishments: 1. Substantial increase in earnings; 2. Equal pay for men and women; 3. Overtime and the eight hour day; 4. Some 220 working agreements; 5. Greater production under incentive wage plan; 6. Seniority clauses in all contracts; 7. Not a single strike authorized since Pearl Harbor.

Keynoting the Convention, Pres. Donald Henderson warned that we still face a difficult period in the war, heavy war casualties at the fronts when the big European invasion starts, and mounting efforts of reactionaries to provoke strikes and in other ways to drive a wedge between soldiers and workers. Pointing out that the "bread and butter interests of all workers are now tied up with politics," Henderson said "unless we win this political fight, we will have a post-war Army of 25,000,000 unemployed, our unions will be smashed and our stomachs emptied."

One Fight, One Enemy

—CIO NEWS

Forward March! by HAROLD J. LANE, Secretary-Treasurer

LOCAL UNIONS' NEED FOR COLD CASH GROWS

BOTH large and small locals have a Negotiating or Grievance Committee, a Shop Stewards' Council, Executive Board Meetings, Department Meetings, and Shop Meetings, as mentioned in my column last issue.

This applies to local unions of [illegible]; however, have neglected some of these functions, especially since Pearl Harbor—for a number of reasons.

Many plants normally operate one shift. Under these circumstances it was possible for locals to have their department meetings. It was possible for their Shop Stewards' Council to meet after work and to carry on their normal activity after work and, to a certain degree, operate efficiently.

Working Long Hours

After Pearl Harbor, in order for us to produce the necessary quantity of material needed to help win the war, many plants went on a two and three shift basis and we find that most of our workers are working exceptionally long hours and, in many instances, seven days a week.

These long hours have had a direct effect on the union and on the members. Because of the exceptionally long hours, some unions are trying to get by with an occasional grievance being settled by a Shop Steward. I say trying to get by, because we have no reason to believe that we have developed to the point where our rank and file members do not have just as many grievances as they have always had. In fact, they have more because of the additional hours they are working in the plant.

Stewards' Councils

This should emphasize the importance of having more Shop Stewards' Council Meetings. It should emphasize the fact that we should have more department meetings and generally, increase the responsibility of union officers, Stewards and members.

I would like to point out also that our membership is going home today with more money in their pockets than at any other time in their history.

The Union obtained these benefits. The Union is responsible for these increased wages and better working conditions.

In other instances, I know that when a Stewards' Council Meeting is called you may have only half the Stewards there because other Stewards are working in the plant. Does the fact that these Stewards are working when the Stewards' Council Meeting is being held lessen the fact that they should be in attendance? It absolutely does not, and the local should have these Stewards come out of the shop and the local should pay for their lost time out of the local union treasury in order that your Stewards' Council can function in an efficient, business-like manner.

After all, what good does it do for our members to go home with large checks in their pockets if we do not operate in such a manner that will guarantee that our members will not be faced with wage cuts and other losses when this war is finally won, and during the post-war period!

Complex Negotiations

We must realize that the job of negotiating your contract today is more complex than at any other time in our history. The only way the Negotiating Committee can expect to get benefits is by being equipped with the knowledge; the statistics and facts that have a direct bearing on their contract.

The only way they can acquire this information is by meeting regularly; by discussing War Labor Board decisions which may have a direct bearing on their case; by studying forms of incentive plans which could be put into operation in their plant; by gathering information on hospitalization plans which can be obtained today and which means a great savings and is of great benefit to our membership; by making a complete and accurate study of past grievances that have arisen and the settlement thereof in order to enable the Negotiating Committee to remove the causes of these grievances.

You can readily see that this is not a part-time job. This is not a job that can be done in the proper manner if it is only given occasional attention by officers and members.

Full-Time Officers

It must be perfectly obvious to any clear thinking officer or member that terrific responsibility on the shoulders of organized labor, its officers and membership, makes it necessary that practically every local union have a full-time Business Agent or Organizer.

Running a union today is a full-time job. The Business Agent should be elected from the ranks of the local union and should be paid out of the local union treasury. His time can be fully occupied with seeing to it that the thousand [illegible] should be done today and [illegible].

It takes more money to operate an organization when it is necessary to bring officers out of a plant and pay for this out of the local treasury.

It takes more money to operate our local unions when it is necessary to have a full-time Business Agent.

This means that we must face the fact that dues should be based on how much does it take to properly operate our union and not on some arbitrary amount decided upon in 1937.

UCAPAWA News

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UCAPAWA and ANB Cooperation Needed

Editorial On Salmon Industry In Alaska

A GOOD many years ago the Alaska Native Brotherhood was organized for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the Alaska natives. This was a logical step to take in an attempt to correct the grave injustices imposed upon the Territorial natives.

In 1938 the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (UCAPAWA-CIO) was organized for the purpose of promoting the welfare of all workers in the food processing industries.

UCAPAWA organized the "outside" cannery workers whom the salmon industry had been importing seasonally since 1905. UCAPAWA also organized several resident locals in Southeast Alaska. Majority of the members of these resident Locals are Alaska natives.

Tremendous gains in wages and greatly improved working conditions by Alaska residential cannery workers were the immediate results. A comparison of wages and conditions enjoyed today with those of a few years back make this only too clear.

This was not accomplished without a struggle. The absentee packing interests bitterly opposed organization of the residents, and each year during negotiations the packers fiercely contested the just demands of resident workers.

Strength in UCAPAWA-CIO

Alaska residents were enabled to make these gains primarily because of the support of UCAPAWA and Local 7. With such strong backing they greatly improved their conditions. Had residential cannery workers been 100% organized, as were the "outside" cannery workers, they would have made even greater gains.

Elsewhere in the United States UCAPAWA has greatly increased the living standards of thousands of workers engaged in food processing industries. Other CIO unions have done the same in other basic industries such as maritime, transportation, fishing, steel, rubber, aircraft, etc.

The secret of success of all CIO organizations, including of course UCAPAWA, has been recognition of the basic fact that all workers, regardless of race, creed or color, are working for the same employer in a given industry, and that therefore all must be organized into the same union so they can present a unified front in their demands.

This is most certainly true of the Alaska cannery workers. [illegible] Filipinos, Negroes, Latin Americans, and others, both men and women; all are doing the same kind of work, all are working for the same boss, under the same general conditions, in the Alaska salmon canneries. Is there any reason why they shouldn't all get the same wages and treatment? We say No. But the employers say Yes.

Employers Seek to Divide Us

Why don't the employers want to accord the same wages and conditions to all? Because they hope that if there is a difference in wages and conditions between the different racial groups, the workers will start quarreling among themselves. Instead of being united against the employers, the Industry hopes that the "residents" will become pitted against the "outsiders." Then, when a great deal of disunity has been engendered, the employers hope they will be in a position to smash all organizations and return the entire Industry back to the old open shop days of wretched wages and atrocious working conditions that prevailed before UCAPAWA organized any of the cannery workers.

Today, because of the war, wages and conditions are more or less stabilized or "frozen" for the duration of the war by the federal government. Unorganized cannery workers are therefore able to get practically the same conditions as UCAPAWA members.

This will not be the case after the war. Workers all over the United States and Alaska will be faced with wage cuts and worsened conditions. The only way in which they will be able to preserve and extend their gains will be by means of powerful organizations. No longer will a group of unorganized workers in any industry be able to maintain their conditions.

UCAPAWA, which has pioneered in the organization of cannery workers, will be best able to promote and extend the welfare of Alaska cannery workers. This is true because of the experience UCAPAWA has in this Industry and the important and additional fact that UCAPAWA is today one of the fastest growing CIO Internationals in the country. But to do a really effective job, all cannery workers must be organized into one single unit.

Forward, Together!

UCAPAWA, in the interest of Alaska residential cannery workers, has taken the necessary steps by setting up a Southeastern Alaska Cannery Workers Council. This will coordinate and strengthen the bargaining strength of all UCAPAWA members in Southeast Alaska and make it possible for them to get the industry 100% organized.

The Alaska Native Brotherhood, as a fraternal organization, can promote the cultural welfare of Alaska natives and initiate certain legislation specifically pertaining to the Native people.

UCAPAWA-CIO, which has the backing of the entire CIO movement, can promote their economic interests, and can be of a great deal of assistance to them in legislative matters as well because of the national prestige and strength enjoyed by the CIO. There is no contradiction between the two organizations. As a matter of fact, there are a great many Alaska natives today who are members of both the ANB and the UCAPAWA, particularly in the vicinity of Juneau and Ketchikan.

Cal Pak Workers Rate "Achievement" Award

Rochelle, Ill.—The War Food Administration's "A" Award for achievement was bestowed upon Locals 17 and 18 recently, marking the first time this award was presented to seasonal canning industry workers in Illinois, according to Melvin E. Govig, Local 17 Fin. Secy.

The members of Locals 17 and 18 work in the California Packing Corp. plants Nos. 109, 110 and 111, in Rochelle and DeKalb.

Pickle Workers Make New Gains

Saginaw, Mich.—New contracts at Dailey Pickle here and at Beutel Canning and Pickling in Bay City bring vacation and other gains to the workers in these two Michigan canneries, according to Int. Rep. C. K. Armstrong, subject to War Labor Board approval. Both locals are UCAPAWA old-timers, Local 68 at Dailey and Local 79 at Beutel.

Workers who leave for the Armed Forces from Dailey will get $30.00 instead of the former $20.00. For those at work on the Home Front, the vacation plan is improved, increasing pay for one year employees from 40 to 48 hours, for two year employees from 48 to 56 hours, and for three year employees from 56 to 72 hours.

At Beutel, the new contract calls for a week's bonus to those who go into the Fighting Forces. Minimum wages are raised to 50c an hour and seasonal workers on the job three months or more will get 20 hours' vacation pay each year.

Campbell's Guards Win 6c Increases

Camden, N. J.—Campbell Soup guards were granted increases of [illegible] 30's request for increases for production workers. The increases, which are retroactive to March 24, 1943, netted the guards an average of $130 in back pay.

Local 35 Leads In Bond Drive

Mercedes, Tex.—Mercedes has a War Bond quota that is higher per person than any other city in the Rio Grande Valley, and Packing Shed Local 35 reports that its members have led the purchasers in this drive. Some belong to the 500 Club and some have bought $1,000 bonds.

At a recent meeting, Local 35 planned the complete organization of their plants and other important fruit and vegetable packing plants in the area. The following members have been named as Shop Stewards for the Local:

E. L. "Bud" Griffin, Paul Scheer, Mrs. Paul Scheer, Joe Posz, Ada Lee Woodall, Stella Solis, J. L. Simmons, Opal Spurlock, Hershall Peddicord, Red Coley, Jimmie Bruner, Jack Anderson, Jose Sandoval, Exequiel Hernandez, Alberto Sanchez, Sam Dilleshaw and Clara Wilson.

Local 3 Members Register To Vote

Los Angeles, Calif.—Informing its members that "voting is the duty of every American," Local 3 has set up its machinery to register members so they can vote in the 1944 elections.

Members can register at the Cal-[illegible] at specified hours two days each week and at all Local meetings. Business Agent Bob MacKay, who is a Deputy Registrar, has arranged to be present at the plants to register the workers to vote.

CAMPBELL SOUP LOCALS WORK OUT WAGE POLICY

Philadelphia, Pa.—Arriving here on Feb. 14 for conferences with officers of the International and of Local 80, John Gallagher (left) and Thomas Smith (center) are greeted by Int. Vice-Pres. Lewis Bentzley. Gallagher is Pres. of Chicago Campbell Soup Local 194 and Smith is Vice-Pres. Bentzley was formerly Chief Shop Steward at Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J., Local 80.

Two solid days of meetings resulted in lining up the wage issues at the two plants in preparation for the coming negotiations, at which the wage question will be reopened at this time under the terms of the 1943 contracts. The meetings were so helpful on a number of questions as well as the wage problems that all agreed that semi-annual meetings of representatives of the Locals should be held in the future, a move which will weld the two locals closer together for the solution of their joint problems.

In addition to the three in the picture, the following took part in the conferences: Harold J. Lane, Secy-Treas.; Carmen Parente, Int. Rep.; Anthony Valentino, Local 80 Pres.; Herbert Kling, Local 80 Fin. Secy.; Sylvia Neff, Local 80 Rec. Secy.; and Elizabeth Sasuly, UCAPAWA Legislative Director.

Florida CIO Calls For Drafting FDR In '44

Jacksonville, Fla.—Meeting here in special convention on Feb. 6, the Florida State CIO Council recorded the organizational gains made by the CIO unions throughout the State and set plans for increasing political activity. UCAPAWA, which represents the greatest potential membership in the State, was represented at the convention by ten delegates.

URGE FOURTH TERM

A resolution urging the drafting of Pres. Roosevelt for a fourth term was adopted by acclamation, as was a resolution re-affirming the no-strike pledge. The convention also went on record in support of subsidies and price control; the anti-lynching bill; permanent power for the Fair Employment Practices Committee; the soldiers' vote bill and cooperation with the American Legion and other veterans' organizations; all-out support for the Fourth War Bond Drive; and the formation of a Florida State Political Action Committee.

A State post-war planning commission with representatives of industry, labor and veterans organizations was urged in a resolution sent to Gov. Holland, all Mayors, all WMC officers, all Vets organizations, and all Chamber of Commerce groups in Florida.

The convention recorded its protest against the poll tax and any form of sales tax and called upon Pres. Roosevelt to abolish freight differentials which are disadvantageous to Southern industry.

UCAPAWA LEADERS

Regional Director Paul Gardner was appointed to the Treasurer's committee and Int. Rep. Anne Mathews was appointed to the Resolutions Committee. Sister Mathews was also elected Chairman of the State Political Action Committee. Int. Rep. Pat Verble was elected member of the State CIO board.

Other UCAPAWA representatives at the Convention were: Field Rep. Bea McCrea; Field Rep. Mary Welcom; and members Lonnie Thomas, Roscoe Lacy, Felix James, William Hargett and William Fischer.

UNION GETS HOMES FOR SHED WORKERS

Phoenix, Ariz.—"It takes an act of Congress or a good, strong Union to enable you to rent a house in Phoenix," said Walter Sims, one of Local 78's best Shop Stewards, and he ought to know. Shown here with his wife Margaret and their daughter Maurita, after a heavy day in the lettuce sheds, relaxing in the living room of their new apartment, Sims says: "I'm sticking with the Union for so many different reasons, I won't attempt to name them all."

Sims was only one of the 1,500 Local 78 migratory workers who came to work the lettuce deal in Phoenix in December, only to find that there was no housing available for them. Several hundred housing units, constructed by the Defense Plant Corp., were located quite near the lettuce sheds, and some 500 of these units were unoccupied, but upon inquiry, Int. Rep. Charles Law was told that workers could not move in unless they were employed by the plants for which they had been constructed.

"It didn't add up to common sense to me that people were unable to rent vacant houses," said Law, and so the Union went to work to move their members in. With the help of Int. Vice-Pres. Luisa Moreno and Dixie Tiller, Leg. Dir. Elizabeth Sasuly, and the California State CIO Council, Law finally received word on Dec. 16 that 100 housing units were to be made available to Local 78 members. Arizona Governor Sidney P. Osborn pursuaded the authorities to produce furnishings.

Since 100 housing units are still inadequate for the 1,500 workers who are needed in the sheds here, the Union has already begun to find more housing for its members who will return for the Spring lettuce deal.

"Just to prove what cooperation can really do," said Law, "Local 78 and the Grower-Shippers joined hands with the War Manpower Commission and went to work to get something done for Spring. Three sites have already been surveyed for 150 mobile housing units to be constructed by the government. The part played by all parties concerned, and especially the State WMC, has been worthy of all Americans."

5c Increases Recommended at Frazier Cannery

Elwood, Indiana—Frazier Packing Corp. workers will get a 5c per hour increase, retroactive to August 18, 1943, according to Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark, if the Regional War Labor Board carries out the recommendation of the WLB hearings officer, who made this recommendation in spite of the fact that Frazier pay scales had already been increased to the limit of the Little Steel formula. Frazier's is under contract with Local 32.

The Company's efforts to resist the increase and to pin the blame for scarcity of labor on the Union Shop provision were given short shrift by the hearings officer. To the Company's wail that because of the Union's refusal to lift the Union Shop provision, school teachers and others were prevented from working at Frazier's, the Hearing officer quietly observed that non-union canneries in the area fared no better in recruiting workers last season.

CRITICAL SITUATION

Explaining his reason for recommending the 5c increase, over and above the Little Steel formula, the hearings officer said "the critical nature of the manpower situation is sufficient to classify this dispute as a 'rare and unusual case' . . ."

"It appears that the current wage schedules are obsolete to the extent that they are driving labor out of the industry, and such obsolescence is a contributing factor to the loss of critical war production."

TOBACCO DIVISION

CIO Committee Bargains With R. J. Reynolds Co.

By Frank Hargrove, International Representative.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 20—For the first time in the history of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. ("Camel" and "Prince Albert"), they are negotiating with a representative group of their 12,000 employees, the beginning of a complete change in their methods of handling labor relations! A proposed agreement has been submitted by the Union and several meetings have been held in an attempt to negotiate a return to work of some 40 employees who were discharged during the organizing campaign. The Directors of the Company who are considering our proposed agreement, are scheduled to make their counter-proposals around Feb. 25.

On Jan. 27 the Union filed with the National Labor Relations Board charges that Reynolds discriminated against Union members by firing the 40 workers. After the Board notices were sent out, the Company suggested that an attempt be made to negotiate settlement of the discharge cases, to which the Union immediately agreed, asking the Labor Board to hold in abeyance the investigation and determination of the case until discussions were held.

WORKERS HAVE A SAY

The NLRB notified both the Company and the Union that they would be glad to cooperate as far as possible along this line, and would hold up investigation for two weeks. But, they said, in the event no settlement is reached within that time, the NLRB will proceed with the case.

In our attempt to settle reinstatement, the biggest obstacle is the old paternalistic policy of the Company. They have always settled any grievance from the viewpoint of representatives of the Company. Never before have they run into employees questioning the "rightness" of the supervisory forces!

We feel, nevertheless, that a portion of these discharge cases will be settled by discussions and possibly the remainder of them by arbitration.

COMMITTE OF 39

Members of the top Negotiating Committee which has been selected by the Stewards' Councils to deal with top management are: S. B. Templeton, Henry Cofer, Verna Dixon, Eva Blevins, Russell Shreve, J. A. Sprinkle, Crawford Shelton, Vivian Bruce, Arthur Johnson, Tom Clifton, Clark Sheppard, Carl Danner, Evan Blakley, Etta Hobson, Gabriel Boles, Arthur White, Daniel Jackson, R. P. Pearson, Frank O'Neal, Etta Neal, John Tomlin, Velma Hopkins, William Malone, Robert Black, Willie Grier, Wardell Boulware, Edgar Welborn, Geneva McClendon, Sidney Royal, Carrie Fair, Caroline Clark, Walter Young, Garfield Wilson, and Eddie Gallimore.

Assisting the Committee are: Conrad Espe, Exec. Vice Pres.; Frank Hargrove, Director, Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee; William De Berry, Int. Rep.; and Clara Hutcherson and Theodosia Simpson, Field Representatives.

The leaf houses Stewards, at Piedmont, Export and Winston are carrying out an important job of coordinating activities with Reynolds workers on general issues and handling through their committees, the question of unemployment compensation for leaf house workers who are laid off at the end of the season. In past years, many of these workers failed to place claims for unemployment benefits.

Reynolds Workers Use Fine Tooth Comb on Contract Demands

Caught by the camera as they were making a final check on the wage proposals before contract negotiations opened at R. J. Reynolds in Winston-Salem, are (l. to r.): Bertha Watson, Secy., Negro Steward Council; Arthur White, Steward; Crawford Shelton, Chairman, White Organizing Committee; Robert Black, Chairman, Negro Steward Council; Charlie Simmons, Steward; and Garfield Wilson, Vice-Chairman, Negro Steward Council. See story at left for name of entire Negotiating Com.

Export Workers Have Their Say In Washington

By Diana Farnham, Secy. Washington Office

Washington, D. C.—"It really makes you appreciate the legislative work of the Union when you see Washington in action. From now on we're going to send twice as many letters and post cards to Congressmen, because we know that they do respond to pressure from home."

This is what Sister Mary Johnson of Local 350 at Export Leaf Tobacco in Richmond, Va., said after she took part in a delegation to Washington on Feb. 10 which told their representative in Congress how the folks back home feels on the Soldiers' Vote, the Anti-Poll Tax, and the FEPC Bills.

Sisters Johnson, Verna Jones, and Jeannette Roach, all of Local 350, visited Congressman Dave Satterfield of Richmond. They impressed upon Congressman Satterfield that they had been "keeping an eye on Congress"—that they knew his past voting record, and that some of it, such as his opposition to the Anti-Poll Tax Bill, they didn't like.

ASK FEPC SUPPORT

But they congratulated him on his vote for a Federal Ballot for Servicemen, and told him to keep up the good work. They took up with him the question of the Marcantonio Bill which would make the Fair Employment Practices Commission permanent, and while the Congressman refused to make a committment, he did promise to study it carefully, and said that he was glad it had been called to his attention.

After leaving Mr. Satterfield's office, the visitors from Local 350 took a sight seeing tour of the Capitol, and saw the House and the Senate in session.

DENNIS SMITH is Chairman of the Entertainment Committee of Larus Bros. Local 577 in Richmond, Va., which showed some 350 members a fine time at a party recently, according to Press Agent Sarah H. Jackson. In a hall bedecked with stars and stripes the gathering saw movies, heard talks and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Members of the Committee are Sam Plush, Estelle Morton, Cornelius Robinson and Richard Pate. Hostesses are Bertha Harris, Mary Council, Louise Bouldwin, Georgie Daise.

No More Cold Feet For Piedmont Leaf Workers

By Clyde M. Watts, Press Agent

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Since our election in August in which we, the CIO Union at Piedmont Leaf Tobacco here won by an overwhelming vote, we have accomplished miracles. Due to the efficient work of our Committee, under the leadership of Sister Henrietta Massey, and our organizer Frank Hargrove we are making work a pleasure instead of a burden.

TOLD HEAT "IMPOSSIBLE"

We were told before our election that getting more heat in our plant was impossible, although we worked all day with cold feet and our sweaters on. We also had to go out for lunch even if it was raining or snowing. Workers were abused, laid off and discharged. Whether in fault or not, no one could say anything. Despite the present rise in living cost, our wages were the same.

There were many more grievances, but thanks to CIO, they are all history now. After our election and signing of the contract, these conditions were done away with.

EAT LUNCH INDOORS

We remain indoors—right at our benches—for lunch in a warm plant heated by our new heating system. There is no abusive language or unfair discharge of any workers in our plant. Although we are working shorter hours, we are turning out more work than ever before. This is just proof that the good working conditions our Union has brought about are not only a benefit to the workers, but also to the employers.

BRIGHT FUTURE

Our contract contains such provisions as seniority rights, job security, grievance procedure, wage adjustments, vacations with pay and military severance pay. All the agreements have been settled except vacations with pay, wage adjustments and military severance pay. These have been referred to the War Labor Board for decision. We are expecting a decision soon and that will be a big day at Piedmont since our contract calls for back pay, retroactive to the time of our negotiations with the Company. Our future is bright indeed!

The officers and stewards who keep things rolling smoothly at Piedmont are as follows: Henrietta Massey, Pres.; Christine Gardner, Vice-Pres.; Octavia Hill, Secy., and Marie Curry, James Clardy, Mary Hart, Jack Stevens, Roy Linville, Carrie Sharpe, Suevary Hines, and Mary Morris, Stewards.

Cigar Local Asks Our Full Support To Red Cross Drive

"In this fourth year of war, the Red Cross faces the greatest task of its history . . . We must do our utmost to see that the goal is made," says CIO Pres. Philip Murray.

The Red Cross is campaigning for $200,000,000 in the 1944 drive.

This money will pay the bills for blood plasma collection, recreation for sick and convalescent fighting men abroad, aid to prisoners of war and to returning servicemen, and the recruiting of nurses for the Army and Navy, and many other services vital to Victory in 1944.

Local 638 at Consolidated Cigar in Lancaster, Pa., writes Pres. Miriam Yeager, "will give full support to the drive here, and we ask that UCAPAWA News cooperate by featuring the appeal in the March 1 issue."

Notes from Locals

Good Deeds . . .

55 Middletown, Ohio—We have purchased a $500 bond in the Fourth Loan Drive, from the Treasury of Local 55 at P. Lorillard here, and spent $80 for Old Gold cigarettes for the soldier boys.

A collection was taken up at our meeting for Brother Landis who is very ill. The Sick Committee reported a ton of coal has been delivered to his home.

Another Department has become 100% Union. There will be a prize for the one who brings in the most members the week of Feb. 21.

By Jennie Stiver, Press Agent

Marcel Reinstated

58 Detroit, Mich.—Helen Marcel, Chairlady of the Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Division of Local 58 here, went back to work Feb. 2 with full seniority restored, following an unfair discharge by the Company.

After three sessions with management and with the assistance of a U. S. Conciliation Commissioner, DWG came around to reason. Sister Marcel had been fired Jan. 17, the Company claiming she had been absent too much. Odd, said the Union that "just by accident," the Chairlady was singled out for such disciplinary action.

D.W.G. Stewards

72 Findlay, Ohio—New officers of Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Local 72 here are Sybil Neff, Pres., of whom we are very proud for she has done a wonderful job as Pres. the past two years; Orpha Crammer, Vice-Pres.; Pauline Shearer, Secy.-Treas.; and Evelyn Bihler, Chief Steward, who has been Chief Steward on day shift for a long time and is very capable.

Chief Steward on days is Daisy Blodgett and nights, Bernice Daniels. Stewards are Nancy Bryant, Cary Kingery, Hattie Davis, Sarah James, Ida Mullahand, Ella Zall, Emma Smith, Kacian Wyant, Lena McCleary, and Don Shearer. We thank all the Stewards who served in the past year for their good work.

Some of our machine operators on lower-priced cigars gained a little luck recently by making a higher priced cigar which makes them $1.25 a thousand.

By Evelyn Clark, Press Agent

Local 110 Is Finding Out Who's Who In '44

By Agnes Dvorak, Press Agent

Cedar Rapids, Iowa—Local 110, together with the other unions here—CIO, AFL and Railway Brotherhoods—is moving forward in no uncertain stride. The combined political action group is doing some concrete work in finding out "who's who" among the political candidates and making certain that we get our people to vote, especially in the primaries.

We have extended our meetings to other suppressed peoples, such as Negroes, foreign-born citizens, and non-partisan candidates who will serve all the people. The foremost thing on our program now is the city election.

WLB Halts Acmeline On Seniority Steal

Traverse City, Mich.—Efforts of Acmeline Mfg. Co., under contract with Local 178 here, to freeze workers out of seniority rights and wage increases were kyboshed by a War Labor Board decision which recently ordered five workers reinstated with full seniority rights and the scale which goes with longer service, according to Int. Rep. C. K. Armstrong.

Five workers with long service, one with 16 years, who had been laid off and employed elsewhere, were told by management they should return as "new" workers, not eligible to the 5c increase granted in June 1943 to workers of six months or more. To this action of the Company, the Board said a firm "no," adding that in the future also seniority must be protected in like cases. The five workers got their back pay.

UNION WON FULL PENSION

Photo by Charles Stetler, Member Local 120

Akron, Ohio—Still at work, although she does not punch a time clock any more, Sister Alice Beatty of Local 120 can spend as much time as she likes now, sewing a quilt as she sits in an easy chair at home, while her dog, Spot, lies contented at her feet.

After working for 23½ years at the Quaker Oats plant here, Sister Beatty was retired on pension Jan. 1. She intends to help out with Red Cross work as soon as she gets some rest.

"The Union has unquestionably proven itself and must be maintained at all costs," Sister Beatty told me. "I feel sure all the older brothers and sisters at the plant realize this. I wish to thank again Steward Elizabeth Louden and Chief Steward George Chomis and the entire Grievance Committee. Had it not been for their faithful work, I would have been deprived of several years of service by the Company and of many dollars of my pension which I am now receiving."

By Marlin F. Knight, Press Agent

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Union Hits The Gong As Quaker Buys Bonds

St. Joseph, Mo.—All of $39,375.00 worth of bonds were purchased by the employees of the Quaker Oats plant here, due, in large part, to the efforts of Local 125, according to Int. Rep. Jack Sparks.

Immediately after Sparks was appointed chairman of the Buchanan County CIO division of the Fourth War Loan Drive, he made arrangements with the Quaker Oats Company for a joint labor-management committee to handle solicitations in the plant. Brother Rex L. Brooks of Local 125 and O. E. Gookins, Company representative, were chosen as co-chairmen of a committee composed of Shop Stewards and foremen.

BANG-UP START

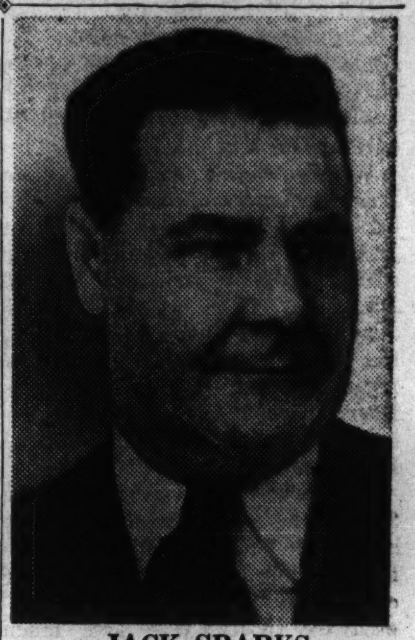
Going to work in earnest, some of the Stewards sold as high as $1,200 worth of bonds on opening day. During the entire period this committee sold $20,700 in extra bonds, averaging a $50 bond for each employee participating.

In addition to these extra bonds, the employees have bought $18,675 worth of bonds through payroll deductions, making a total of $39,375 worth of war bonds actually purchased during the drive.

WHAT THE UNION CAN DO

"We are very proud of this record," said Sparks, "as this is the first time that the Union has been given credit, either by the Quaker Oats Company or in the County drives, for what their people do to support those drives. What the Union can do is shown very clearly by the comparison with the Third War Loan Drive when the foremen alone handled the solicitations. In that drive only 50 extra bonds were sold in the Quaker plant. Many of the employees were not even contacted then."

Other news from St. Joe is an intensive campaign to build the CIO here. Arrangements are under way for a dance to celebrate the setting up of the St. Joseph Industrial Union Council, to be held on March 11.



JACK SPARKS

Notes from LOCALS

Our Best Friend, CIO

Memphis, Tenn. — "We have a membership of 94 and are still going strong every week," reports Jessie Harrison, Fin. Sec. of the Happy Feed Mills unit of Local 19 here—the newest section of Local 19, and one which has been plugging to win CIO for three years. "We are proud of Local 19," adds Brother Harrison, "because the CIO is our best friend."

When on Jan 13, 1944, the workers turned in the 79 to one victory vote, this put into the dog house the man who had tried to disrupt CIO, the man who back in 1941 when organization first started, carried tales to the boss so that the people "lost hope."

"But in 1943 we made a new start," explains Harrison, "and this time we did not let this character know what was going on, so he did not have anything to tell the boss."

Nation Defense Fund

MORE than one hundred CIO unions throughout the country have already answered the appeal of the Otis Nation Defense Fund. (See "Nation Fund Is . . . ," bottom column 3.)

Since publication of the list of contributors in the Jan. 15 issue of the News, the following additional contributions have been made:

UCAPAWA Local 18, DeKalb, Ill.	$ 5.00
UCAPAWA Local 281, Detroit, Mich.	10.00
UCAPAWA Local 297, Toledo, Ohio	5.00
UCAPAWA Local 155, Oskaloosa, Iowa	10.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 430, N. Y. C.	5.00
Steelworkers, Local 1013, Fairfield, Ala.	50.00
Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Local 169, N. Y. C.	5.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 209, Bridgeport, Conn.	10.00
Communications Assoc., Local 32, Los Angeles, Calif.	5.00
ACA, Western Union Local 40, New York City	15.00
Bridgeport, Ind., Union Council, Bridgeport, Conn.	50.00
Auto Workers, Local 265, Evansville, Ind.	50.00
Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Capitol District Joint Board, Troy, N. Y.	10.00
Steelworkers, Local 1015, Birmingham, Ala.	10.00
Furniture Workers, Local 310, Peru, Ind.	5.00
Steelworkers, Local 1054, Kokomo, Ind.	10.00
State, County, Municipal Workers, Local 28, N. Y. C.	5.00
Steelworkers Local 876, South Bend, Ind.	5.00
Steelworkers, Gadsden Local 2176, Alabama City, Ala.	25.00
Furniture Workers, Local 496, Bloomington, Ind.	5.00
Steelworkers, Local 2119, Muncie, Ind.	5.00
Auto Workers, Local 76, Oakland, Calif.	5.00
Auto Workers, Local Auxiliary 48, Muncie, Ind.	5.00
Rubber Workers, Local 191, Camden, N. J.	10.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 425, Long Island, N. Y.	10.00
Aluminum Workers, Local 24, Bridgeport, Conn.	25.00
Steelworkers, Local 1543, Indianapolis, Ind.	10.00
Steelworkers, Local 1009, Gary, Ind.	15.00
Auto Workers, Local 242, Muncie, Ind.	5.00
Steelworkers, Local 1010, East Chicago, Ind.	10.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 312, No. Tonowanda, N. Y.	5.00
Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Local 220, Syracuse, N. Y.	10.00
Shoe Workers, Local 13, New York City	10.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, District 4, Newark, N. J.	10.00
Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers, Local 12373, Niagara Falls, N. Y.	5.00
Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Local 444, N. Y. C.	6.00
Transport Service Employees, Local 501, N. Y. C.	10.00
Steelworkers, Local 2823, Fairfield, Ala.	10.00
Steelworkers, Local 1587, Fairfield, Ala.	25.00
Steelworkers, Local 1131, Fairfield, Ala.	25.00
Fed. of Architects, Engineers, Chapter 31, Newark, N. J.	10.00
Retail & Wholesale Workers, Local 1-S, New York City	5.00
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 1225, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
UFWA, Upholsterers Local 76, New York City	10.00
Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, Local 9, San Pedro, Cal.	100.00
Optical Workers, Local 205, New York City	5.00
Retail & Wholesale Workers, Local 2, New York City	5.00
Tarentum, Ind., Union Council, Tarentum, Pa.	5.00
Steelworkers, Local 1199, Buffalo, N. Y.	10.00
Shoe Workers Local 54, New York City	5.50
Transport Workers Union, New York City	10.50
Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.	10.00
TOTAL	$ 692.00
Previous Contributions	1,024.60
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE	$1,716.60

Blast At Dies . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

political program, including full employment and cooperation among the United Nations during the post-war period."

The CIO Political Chairman pointed out that this committee had welcomed an investigation of its activities by Attorney General Biddle and had already thrown open its books to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

DIES FISHES

Hillman charged that the Dies Committee is solely interested in a fishing expedition in fields outside its jurisdiction "in order to defeat the legitimate political aspirations of millions of workers and their families, farm groups, small businessmen and genuinely progressive elements" who wish to maintain and expand our "American way of life."

He rejected as an impertinence any possible charge that urging Americans to register and vote and participate broadly in the political life of the nation is "subversive or un-American."

It is our purpose to bring the issues of the crucial year to the issues of this crucial year to the attention of the American people—the issues of speedy victory in the war and the establishment of a serene and lasting peace; the issue of full employment and a more abundant life of our people," Hillman stated."

"It is a perversion of reason and common sense to hold that it is un-American and subversive for organized labor to expose to public view the records of men like Martin Dies."

Nation Fund is . . .

The Otis Nation Fund was established by the Florida CIO Council to defend Otis Nation, UCAPAWA Vice-Pres. following his conviction for the "terrible offense" of helping the Government find desperately needed workers to work on the war-essential tomato crop at Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J.

Vic Cline—A Steward Who Knows His Job

By Jack Sparks, International Representative

St. Joseph, Mo. — This is the story of Harvey Vic Cline, Fin. Secy. of Local 125, Shop Steward, member of the Organizing Committee and recently elected to serve on the Grievance Committee. As a Shop Steward, Vic has handled all sorts of cases—discrimination, rate cases, equal pay cases, seniority—and most of them have been settled satisfactorily before the Grievance Committee got a chance to hear them.

Vic is one of the boys the Company tried to take their spite out on when the Union came to Quaker Oats. On the morning after the election in which UCAPAWA won bargaining rights, Vic's boss, Terry Johnson, notified him that his rate would be cut.

FIRST GRIEVANCE WON

Vic told him: "Instead of trying to cut rates, you had better look out for your job. Seventy-five percent of the employees in here this morning are working as one man now. Some of you foremen are going to get your ears pinned back if you don't watch out."

And when Johnson cut Vic's rate, he did get his ears pinned back, for Vic wrote up the grievance and won his case.

In addition to serving as Shop Steward and keeping excellent records of the Union's business, Vic has found ample time to assist in any organizational work that has come his way. If he happens to meet an employee of another plant which might be in line for organization, you can depend on Vic to get that person's name and address and to open the way for further organizational work.

VIC CLINE

GUIDE TO POLITICAL ACTION

By ELIZABETH SASULY

Legislative Research Director

OUR CAMPAIGN FOR HIGHER WAGES

THE CIO Steelworkers' union has come out for wage increases of 17 cents an hour, with the backing of all the CIO Unions whose members want similar increases. Is labor just trying to get all it can without any regard for the demands of the war and of the country as a whole?

We know this isn't true. The Labor members of the President's Cost of Living Committee have just sent to the President their survey showing that the cost of living has gone up 43.5% since January 1941 instead of 23.4%, the Bureau of Labor Statistics figures which the War Labor Board uses for giving wage increases under the Little Steel Formula.

We know that two-thirds of the 20 million families in this country have less than $2,500 a year to live on and that a great number of the workers in industries covered by UCAPAWA have much less than that.

When we ask for changes in the National Wage Policy to correct these conditions we are asking for adjustments which are necessary because of substandard wages and because inflationists in and out of Congress allowed prices to go up while wages were held down. This was in direct opposition to President Roosevelt's program of maintaining the health and productivity of the civilian population for more effective prosecution of the war. We are not asking for increases for workers who do not need them.

Every local union and every union member knows these things although they may not know the exact figures.

But do the people in your community know it? (Not those employers who don't want to give wage increases, but the average citizen in your city or town.)

Have your Congressmen and Senators heard from your local on the subject of the wage demands? In most cases, they probably haven't.

The point of this story is that wage demands today are not "pork chop" demands—something separated from "political action." Wage demands are a political question which require political action.

If your unions take the old pork chop approach to getting wage increases, they will find that the wage case of the American workers will be lost. Not because it isn't a good case, but because they didn't fight it right. (Of course your union must make the most careful preparation possible of its War Labor Board cases. But that will not change the National wage policy as it must be changed if we are to get the right kind of decisions on cases).

Here are the first steps to be taken:

CONGRESS: Very soon the question of a new economic stabilization act will be up in Congress. The old Act of 1942 said that prices and wages should be stabilized as of September 15, 1942. This was not done. Therefore a new stabilization point must be found. Wages must be adjusted to take care of price increases shown in the Cost of living survey made by the Labor members of the President's Committee.

The members of every local union must tell this to their Congressmen and Senators. Don't just give them the figures in the cost of living study. Tell them how much workers in your local make per hour and per week and how much more they are paying for food, clothing, rent, etc., so the Congressmen will know what the situation is in the case of people in their own districts.

YOUR COMMUNITY: Take this question up in your CIO Council, or if there is no council in your area get out publicity of your own on the subject. Contact churches, neighborhood business associations, farm organizations, etc., and tell them the story.

Flash!

Feb. 24—In the name of UCAPAWA, Pres. Henderson today wired Senator Alben W. Barkeley urging him to reconsider his intention of resigning as Senate Majority leader since a break in the Administration ranks would injure the war effort. Barkeley had expressed bitter opposition to Roosevelt's veto of the tax bill.

FDR Saves Subsidies, Vetoes "Greedy" Tax Bill

Sharply labelling the bill passed by Congress which would have banned subsidies, "an inflation measure, a high cost of living measure, a food shortage measure," Pres. Roosevelt vetoed the bill on Feb. 18. His action was upheld in the House by a 151 to 226 vote, less than the two-thirds necessary to override a veto.

While subsidies are saved for a few months, reactionary Congressmen have declared their intention of renewing the attack when the bill to extend OPA comes up.

On Feb. 22 the President vetoed Congress' tax bill, lambasting it as a "tax relief" bill, "not for the needy, but for the greedy." The President criticized the bill for not supplying needed funds for the war, while granting special privileges to the rich.

WLB Turns Down Cal Pak Farm Case

Washington, D. C. (FP)—The War Labor Board in a unanimous decision again refused to accept jurisdiction of disputes over the issue of union representation involving agricultural workers.

A decision written by WLB chairman William H. Davis asserted that the word "employee" as used in the Smith-Connally war disputes act has the same meaning as in the National Labor Relations Act, which specifically excludes agricultural workers. The case involved a claim of representation by UCAPAWA Locals 17 and 18 involving over 150 farm workers employed by the California Packing Corp.

At the same time, Davis pointed out that the board could assume jurisdiction of cases involving other representation, thus opening the way for agricultural workers to obtain a hearing before the board.

Turn the Heat On Congress!

Soldiers' Vote (S 1285; S 1612)

The Rankin bill (S 1285) prevents servicemen from voting. S 1612 is the compromise Federal ballot bill. Both are deadlocked in a conference committee of the House and Senate. Final test will come very soon in both houses.

ACTION: Send wires to your Congressmen and Senators, and keep sending them FOR A FEDERAL BALLOT FOR SERVICEMEN. (See Page 7.)

"Equal Rights" Amendment

Amendment to the Constitution which pretends to give equal rights to women but would actually wipe out all State laws protecting women workers (minimum wage, health laws, etc.)

ACTION: Write your Senators to vote against this phony amendment. Write your Congressman telling him not to sign the discharge petition for the bill in the House.

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Ends reactionary control of Congress by giving 10 million Americans the vote. COMING UP SOON IN THE SENATE.

ACTION: Wire your Senators to vote for cloture (a limit on debate) and against any amendments to the bill.

Our War Labor Board Cases

The table below summarizes the current Conciliation and War Labor Board cases of which the International Office has a record, as of Feb. 18. If your case is not on this list, the reason is that your local has not reported it to the International Office.

Dispute Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local	Date Certified
Consolidated Cigar Corp., Lancaster, Pa.	638	Sept. 1, 1943
Cudahy Prod. Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19	Apr. 7, 1943
Fosgate Co., Orlando, Fla.	4	
Four Peanut Co.'s (American, Lummis, Parker, Pond), Suffolk, Va.	26	Aug. 7, 1943
French Benzol & City Cleaners, Miami, Fla.	50	Dec. 5, 1942
Leland Cotton Oil Co., Leland, Miss.	189	Oct. 4, 1943
Pretlow Peanut Co., Franklin, Va.	511	Apr. 1, 1943
Quaker Oats Co., Akron, Ohio	120	Sept. 17, 1943

Pending in Regional Offices

Alaska Salmon Industry, Seattle, Wash.	7	Jan. 19, 1944
Bay Cooperative Canneries, Inc., Essexville, Mich.	82	Feb. 5, 1944
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., N. Little Rock, Ark	98	Jan. 19, 1944
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19	Nov. 6, 1943
California Packing Corp. (Cannery Workers only), DeKalb & Rochelle, Ill.	17 & 18	Dec. 16 1943
Consolidated Cigar Corp., Camden, N. J.	80	Oct. 2, 1943
Consumers Lumber & Veneer Co., Apopka, Fla.	4	Feb. 7, 1944
Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, Lima, Van Wert, Findlay and St. Mary's, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.	58, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73	Oct. 30, 1943
Dunklin County Compress Co., Kennett, Mo.	355	May 12, 1943
Export Leaf, Richmond, Va.	350	Sept. 4, 1943
Export Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943
Forrest City Cotton Oil Mill, Forrest City, Ark.	109	July 10, 1943
Frazier Packing Corp., Elwood, Ind.	32	Aug. 18, 1943
Frieder Cigar Co., Phila, Pa.	186	Nov. 8, 1943
Hopkinsville Milling Co., Houkinsville, Ky.	195	Feb. 9, 1944
Huron Milling Co., Harbor Beach, Mich.	20	Nov. 13, 1943
Imperial Valley Melon Sheds	78	
Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., Rush City, Minn.	49	June 15, 1943
Lutheran Cemetery, Maspeth, L.I., N.Y.	293	May 19, 1943
Marshall Canning Co., Marshalltown, Iowa.	155	June 24, 1943
National Starch Co., Indianapolis, Ind.	92	Nov. 16, 1943
Piedmont Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943
Poinsett Co., Trumann, Ark.	85	Oct. 6, 1943

Pending in Regional Offices (Continued)

Name	Local	Date Certified
Quaker Oats Co., St. Joseph, Mo.	125	Nov. 5, 1943
Quaker Oats Co., Cedar Rapids, Iowa	110	Dec. 10, 1943
San Francisco Sardine Ass'n, San Francisco, Calif	7	Sept. 4, 1943
Swift & Co., La Crosse, Wis.	448	Aug. 31, 1943
Winston Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943

Voluntary Wage Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local
Larus & Bros. Co., Richmond, Va.	577

Pending in Regional Offices

Abraham Bros., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Arbyrd Compress Co., Arbyrd, Mo.	216
Beutel Pickling Co., Bay City, Mich.	79
Brumder Estates, Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.	107
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. (Hollywood & Jackson Ave. plant), Memphis, Tenn.	19
Central Jersey Farmers Coop., Hightstown, N. J.	95
Dailey Pickle & Canning Co., Saginaw, Mich.	68
DeCanale & Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, Lima, Van Wert, Findlay, St. Mary's, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.	58, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73
Dolly Madison Dairy Co., La Crosse, Wis.	448
Dow Cheese Co., Fond Du Lac, Wis.	341
J. W. Eshelman & Sons Feed Co., York, Pa.	101
Federal Compress, Helena, Ark.	232
Holy Cross Cemetery, Detroit, Mich.	58
Jiffy Mfg. Co., Hillside, N. J.	154
Kennett Compress, Kennett, Mo.	355
Kraft Cheese, Summitville, Ind.	48
Loyalty Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.	107
Augustus Pollack, Wheeling, W. Va.	352
Quaker Oats Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Quaker Oats Co. Akron, Ohio	120
Malone & Hyde, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Roseland Cemetery, Detroit, Mich.	58
Max Schwarz, New York City	273
Steffen Vinegar Co., Chicago, Ill.	194
Swift's Fertilizer, Harvey, La.	91
Swift's Refinery, Harvey, La	309
V-C Fertilizer, Jacksonville, Fla.	4-A
Van Camp Sea Food Co., San Diego, Calif.	64
Webster-Eisenlohr, Inc., Detroit, Mich.	231
Wilson & Toomer, Jacksonville, Fla.	4-A
36 Melon Sheds, Yuma & Imperial Valley, Calif.	78
Carrot Sheds, Imperial Valley & Yuma	78

Act Now For The Soldiers' Vote!

IS IT worth your while to write a letter so that our fighting men and women overseas may be given the right to vote?

It is not too late to save the Federal ballot. All Locals should take action—see "Turn the Heat on Congress," page 6, col. 1. In addition, there is a special job for some UCAPAWA members, as follows:

The Congressmen listed below have voted against the Federal ballot, but they can be persuaded to change their votes, if they hear from their constituents. If your Congressman is on this list, get a plain piece of paper and sit down, tonight, to write him a letter. The democratic rights of our soldiers in Italy, in the Marshalls and on every fighting front, now hang in the balance.

California
Los Angeles: Norris Poulson, R.
San Francisco: Thos. Rolph, R.

Michigan
Elberta, Fremont, Traverse City: Albert J. Engle, R.
Saginaw: Fred L. Crawford, R.
Bay City: Roy O. Woodruff, R.
Monroe: Earl C. Michener, R.
Detroit, Ferndale: George A. Dondero, R.
Harbor Beach: Jesse Wolcott, R.
Holland: Bartel Jonkman, R.

Louisiana
Harvey: Paul Maloney, D.
New Orleans: F. Edw. Hebert, D.

Missouri
St. Joseph: William Cole, R.

New Jersey
Union, Hillside: Donald McLean, R.

New York
Congr. - at - Large: Winfred Stanley, R.

Ohio
Cincinnati: William Hess, R.
Lima, St. Marys: Robt. Jones, R.
Findlay, Van Wert: Fred Smith, R.
Toledo, W. Toledo: Homer Ramey, R.
Akron: Ed Rowe, R.

Pennsylvania
Philadelphia: James Gallagher, R.; C. Frederick Pracht, R.; Hugh Scott, R.
Lancaster: J. Roland Kinzer, R.
Norwood: James Wolfenden, R.
At Large: William Troutman, R.

Washington
Aberdeen: Fred Norman, R.

West Virginia
Wheeling: Andrew Schiffler, R.

Wisconsin
LaCross: Wm. Stevenson, R.
Whitewater: Lawrence Smith, R.

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

JACOB CLADY, former Fin. Sec. of Local 19, was warmly greeted by Local members recently when he came home on leave. Just graduated to 2nd Class Mate, Clady wrote to the NEWS: "I am expecting to be transferred to another base any day for advance training, so I may be able to do the job that is assigned to me as an American."

Act On Soldier Vote

Recent actions taken by UCAPAWA locals on behalf of the soldiers' vote include letters and wires sent to Congressmen by Cannery Local 7-2, Seattle, Wash.; Local 9, Miami, Fla., and Local 91, New Orleans, La.

Veronica Gets V-Mail From a Good Union Man

Chicago, Ill.—Veronica Kryzan, Fin. Secy. of Local 194, got a V-Mail fan letter from a soldier she has never met. Having seen her picture in the Chicago Sun, where she and other unionists voiced their protest against the Tribune's attack upon war workers, this soldier, from "Somewhere in Italy," wrote to tell her that the union men on the front lines are keeping their faith with the workers back home.

V. KRYZAN

This is the letter:

Saturday, Somewhere in Italy . . .

Dear Veronica:

The same as you, I am a union man, have been for years now. I think the same as you do about the smear of the Tribune. We are the combat Engineers—we know what is what. I should think it (the Tribune) would have other things to do than try to throw such things as they do at workers in our very much needed war plants.

The papers we get are several weeks old by the time we get to see them. This is some country here. However, I would much prefer to be home in Washington, D. C., again.

However, the union men here feel that the ones at home will take care of the things that come up while we of necessity are away from home. Hoping to hear soon.

Sincerely,
Reid.

Tell Soldiers Facts About Labor's Record

New York, N. Y. (FP) — The CIO War Relief Committee appealed to the War Dept. to open up channels for acquainting members of the armed services with labor's war record. In a letter to Secy. of War Robert P. Patterson, Chairman Irving Abramson said:

FALSE INFORMATION

"It has become increasingly evident that information reaching our armed forces concerning the efforts of American workers is contrary to established fact. Strikes involving small numbers of workers are broadcast and printed in great detail, although official statistics prove labor's excellent record of working attendance to be better than 99 percent."

Abramson suggested that men and women in the armed forces be told of the no-strike pledge, labor production record, blood donations, war bond purchases and contributions to the Red Cross.

UCAPAWA MIKE SAYS:

You've Got to Blow The Union Horn!

THE Executive Board sat and listened attentively while Recording Secretary Emma Dundy read the weekly report.

"According to the [illegible] meeting," Emma read, "the Executive Board wrote letters to our Congressmen on the following issues: the soldiers' vote, subsidies and and an amendment to the farm bill." From a corner of the room where UCAPAWA Mike was sitting, came an appreciative murmur.

"Five grievances were settled satisfactorily by our Shop Stewards in the past week."

"Gee whiz!" whispered Mike.

"Our War Bond Chairman concluded plans with management for our quota in the Fourth War Loan Drive. We reached 34% in the first week, the best record in this county."

"Gee whiz!" muttered Mike.

"And," concluded Emma, "we convinced the labor-management committee to invite a Red Cross mobile unit to come to the plant next month to collect blood."

"Gee whiz!" said Mike.

President Sneden cleared his throat. "A very good report, Sister Dundy," the President said. "And now, Mike, what are you mumbling about there?"

"Gee whiz!" said Mike, "I was thinking. Here we're doing a good job building the Union—political activity, grievance settlements, war activities. But just look at the evening paper here. It's just a little sentence tucked away in an editorial on taxes. You know what it says? It says unions are unpatriotic, they foment strikes . . . Just a little sentence tucked into a big story, but it happens all the time. The papers keep on saying that unions are no good, they're this, that and the other thing. And little by little, they get people believing what they say.

"Well, gee whiz!" Mike sputtered, "why don't we do something about this? Why don't we tell people what we're really doing for the war effort?"

"Why don't we write a letter to the editor of the paper, telling about our activities?" asked Emma. "And why don't we write about it to UCAPAWA News, so the rest of our own Union hears about it?"

PRESS AGENT INTO ACTION

"Yes," agreed President Sneden. "We have a Press Agent. Let's assign him to do that."

"But where," asked Mike, "is our Press Agent? We never see him."

President Sneden cleared his throat. "I think we ought to get our Press Agent to attend Executive Board meetings, so he will know in detail what's going on in the Local. Is everyone agreed?" Ayes filled the room.

"As the new Press and Publicity Handbook says," added Mike, "now is the time for us to blow our own horn—and let the people know who we are!"

"SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT HER TAXES ARE BUYING!"

HORTICULTURE

Detroit Cemeteries Boost Pay 5 Cents

By C. K. Armstrong, Int. Rep.

Detroit, Mich.—In all our cemetery divisions of Local 58 here we have gained at least a five cent wage increase as well as new vacation set-ups. At Holy Cross we won a two weeks' vacation for older employees and Christmas and New Years' pay for Evergreen and Oakview.

At Elmwood, pay boosts of five cents per hour for new employees and six cents for old employees were retroactive to August 26, 1942.

Notes from LOCALS

COTTON

CIO Soldiers' Club

19 **Memphis, Tenn.**—The membership of Local 19 at its meeting on Feb. 14 pledged $25 a month for a CIO Servicemen's Club to be opened in the CIO Hall in Memphis. Also, in recognition of the healthy finances of the Local, the members voted to buy ten $100 bonds out of the treasury.

Field Rep. Reuel Stanfield reported the signing of a new contract with L. P. Cook's, chalking up a 5c wage raise and an extra week's paid vacation.

In Brother Stanfield's closing remarks, he made it very plain to the members how important it is for them to be receiving UCAPAWA News and the necessity for reading and studying it.

By Beulah Clouse, Fin. Secy.

SOY BEAN

'44 Officers

179 **Toledo, Ohio** — In the Fourth War Bond Drive, the members increased their purchases over $1,600.

At our meeting of Feb. 9, Soy Bean Local 179 elected its officers for 1944. They are:

William Hildebrandt, Pres.; E. Wendel, Vice-Pres.; E. Marchal, Fin. Secy.; P. Kemmernan, Rec. Secy.; Grievance Committee — R. A. Brown, V. Flory; Safety Committee—J. Bloom, A. Helmich, G. Rice; Sick Committee W. James, G. Baker, J. Keller; R. A. Brown, 3-year Trustee; IUC delegates—G. Baker, C. Degood; State Organizing Committee delegate — C. Degood.

Both the Union and the Company (Archer - Daniels - Midland) are appealing the War Labor Board decision which denied our request for a 5c per hour increase.

By Clyde Degood, Acting Pr. Ag.

DAIRY

More Bonds Bought

236 **Whitewater, Wis.**—As chairman of the Committee on Labor at Creameries, George H. West, Pres. Local 236, reports the purchase of $8,995.84 worth of war bonds by the workers during 1943.

The bonds were bought through payroll deductions of 12 percent each week by the 44 workers in the plant, in addition to which $1,150 worth of extra bonds were purchased. "I hope all the other Locals will back the attack," writes Bro. West. "Our country needs the help of every American to win the war."

Asparagus Cutters Protest Wage Rates

Stockton, Calif. — In an appeal to War Food Administrator Marvin E. Jones, Local 7 asparagus cutters of the San Joaquin river delta protested the setting up of inadequate wage ceilings for the area.

Pointing out that the ceilings were set on Jan. 8, by the Dept. of Agriculture's wage board which is staffed almost entirely by the biggest California farmers and has no union representation, the Union's letter deplored:

- Setting a wage ceiling lower than last year's rates;
- Failure to make allowance for huge losses due to non-payment of culls and other unused products.

School's In Again!

Union Members Meet and Study Together at a New Kind Of School for Workers

Philadelphia, Pa.—"To win a victory for democracy in a total war all the energies of the people must be mobilized, and in this task education has a great role to play," says the Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art.

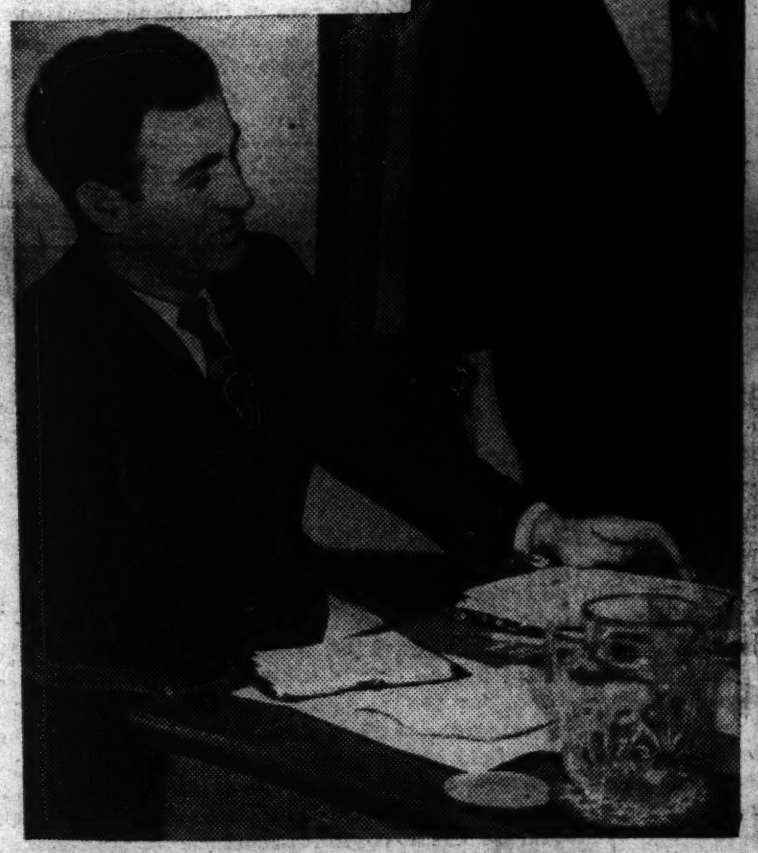
More than 700 men and women from all walks of life, but chiefly members of the local trade unions, have rushed to join the school which offers this education for democracy. A little more than a month old, the school has already built up a reputation for teaching workers the things they want to know in an informal, interesting manner.

VARIOUS COURSES

Twenty-six evening classes and two day classes provide such varied courses as Public Speaking and Parliamentary Practice, Religion and Society, Art in Society, Shop Steward and the Union, History of the American Labor Movement, Wartime Trade Union Problems, and First Aid, as well as many others.

Local 80 has sent 25 students and Local 186 sent 10 students to attend classes at the special scholarship rate which the school offers trade unions.

Other popular centers of workers' education are the Tom Mooney School in San Francisco, the People's Educational Center in Los Angeles, the Abraham Lincoln School in Chicago and the Jefferson School in New York.



Here are typical comments about the school by UCAPAWA members:

Benjamin Butler, Campbell Soup: I can hardly wait until Wednesday nights to attend class. It is indeed inspiring.

Thomas West Jr., Campbell Soup, explains: I think our Union did one of the best things when they sent us to school.

Antoinette Przybylski, Frieder Cigar: The school helps me as a Steward meet whatever problem may come up at the plant.

George Ardelean, American Preserve: It is through these classes that we find ways and means to solve the different problems that come up.

John Allender, Campbell Soup: I am learning things I never knew about unions and duties of Shop Stewards. The course should be given all Shop Stewards.

Henry Thomas, Campbell Soup: I feel the school is supplying a long overdue necessity. Nothing will prevent the worker from coming into his own once he is educated.

Anthony John Buonomo, Campbell Soup: The class gives a Shop Steward a chance to know what he faces in the future, and how to handle different types of grievances and answer questions.

Mary Williams, Consolidated Cigar: The school helps a Steward to deal more deeply with his duties and be able to get down to facts and understand the meaning and purpose of a union.

Dora Slaughter, Campbell Soup: I like the school very much because things are so clearly explained. The teachers are just wonderful.

In the cheerful classrooms of the Philadelphia School, UCAPAWA Shop Stewards and local Union leaders join unionists every week to learn more about their common problems. After a lively evening's discussion of trade union policies, handling of shop grievances, arbitration or War Labor Board procedures, the spirit of the students is high.

TOP PICTURE: Helen Kendra, one of the newest Local 80 Stewards in the labeling department of Campbell Soup, raises a good question in the class for Shop Stewards. Local 80 paid for the tuition of 25 of its Stewards, some of whom are seen in the picture, which shows only a section of the big class.

UPPER LEFT: The popular teachers of the Shop Stewards' class, who merit the highest praise from their students, are Henry and Jessica Rhine, organizers for the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (CIO). The students all agree that the Rhines are wonderful doctors for Shop Steward headaches. The Rhines advise Stewards to be leaders in the departments—don't just collect dues and say "Good-by, I'll see you again next month."

DIRECTLY ABOVE: Local 186 sends 10 of its leading members to the Tuesday night class on Wartime Trade Union Problems. Business Agent Carmen Parente (front row, center) agrees with the others that the school is first-rate. This class is taught by Saul Waldbaum, prominent Philadelphia labor attorney, whose aim is "to give union members the tools which they need every day."

BOTTOM LEFT: While waiting for their class to begin, Local 80 Stewards Florence Levin and Anna Magee (Siegel Cigar) and Antoinette Sharp (Consolidated Cigar) relax in the School's comfortable lounge. Steward Magee is a grandmother, but, she says, it is never too late to go to school. "I am very much interested in union work," she adds, "I hope to help make better conditions for our little ones growing up and our boys who are coming home after the victory."